National Highway which is leading to Rishikesh / Haridwar into a four lane Highway in view of unrestrained increase in traffic on the same;

(b) if so, by when this is likely to be widened; and

(c) if not, the steps being taken by Government to tackle the increasing traffic and make the journey convenient to sacred places like Rishikesh and Haridwar?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K. H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) to (c) NH-58 connects Delhi, Haridwar and Rishikesh. At present its widening from Delhi upto the junction with NH-72 (between Haridwar and Rishikesh) has been included under National Highway Development Programme (NHDP) Phase — IIIA. Four laning of NH-58 beyond this point is not envisaged at present. It is premature to indicate time frame for its widening.

Construction of Expressway under Phase VI of NHDP

1760. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state;

(a) whether it is a fact that Government had approved construction of 1,000 Km. of expressway under phase VI of the National Highway Development Programme at a cost of Rs. 16,680 crore through public-private partnership on BOT basis;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government had also approved a new component in National Highway Development Projects; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In the first stage of National Highways Development Project (NHDP) Phase-VI, 400 Km. long Vadodara-Mumbai corridor will be taken. The balance 600 Km. will be selected from the potential routes such as Delhi-Chandigarh, Delhi-Jaipur, Delhi-Meerut, Delhi-Agra, Bangalore-Chennaiand Kolkata-Dhanbad on the basis of prioritization study.

(c) and (d) In addition to Phase I, II and VI of NHDP, Government has also approved the following new components under NHDP:—

. (i) Upgradation/4-laning of 4035 km of National Highways under NHDP Phase IIIA at a cost of Rs. 22,207 crore on Build, Operate and Transfer (BOT) basis and preparation of detailed project report for another 7,078 km under NHDP Phase-IIIB.

(ii) Six laning of 6,500 km of National Highways comprising 5700 km of Golden Quadrilateral and balance 800 km of other sections of National Highways under NHDP Phase-V at a cost of Rs. 41,210 crore on BOT (Toll) mode.

Construction of NHs in Chhattisgarh

†1761. SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of new Highways under construction at present in Chhattisgarh;

(b) when those roads would be given the status of National Highways;

(c) the amount allocated and spent annually on the various construction works of these Highways during the last three years; and

(d) the details of the allocation, expenditure and payments made to the contractors and the works undertaken by them for the construction of NH-78?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) This Ministry is responsible for development and maintenance of National Highways. There are two newly declared National Highways in Chhattisgarh viz. (i) NH-221 starting from its junction of NH-16 near Jagdalpur, connecting Darba-Kukanar-Sukma-Konta-Andhra Pradesh border in Chhattisgarh and extending up to its junction at NH-9 near Vijaywada in Andhra Pradesh and (ii) NH-111 starting from Bilaspur to Ambikapur in Chhattisgarh via Katghora. NH-111 has however, not yet been transferred to National Highway Wing, in view of ongoing BOT project awarded by State between Bilaspur

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.